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OLC 70-108

11 February 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Security Clearances for Congressional Staff Personnel

1. Secretary Laird in his letter to you of 28 January 1970 (Tab A) concluded by stating that Mr. Froehke had been informed of your letter to Laird of 14 January 1970 (Tab B) and would serve as the OSD point of contact if we decided to pursue the matter further.

2. Accordingly we recommend that the undersigned jointly call on Mr. Froehke and

a. state the Agency's position as follows:

(1) our immediate concern with congressional staff clearances centers on compartmented clearances;

(2) the Agency has been serving, and is prepared to continue serving, as the intelligence community's office of record for compartmented clearances;

(3) the Agency is in no position to assume similar responsibilities regarding Secret and Top Secret clearances.

b. suggest to Mr. Froehke that, in line with Secretary Laird's letter to you of 28 January, a representative of OSD bring the problem to the attention of someone in the White House--possibly Mr. Harlow or Mr. Timmons--and suggest

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they, or perhaps the President, may wish to stress to appropriate members of the Congress the importance of limiting security clearances of congressional staff personnel, and of carefully observing classification restrictions at all times.



John M. Maury
Legislative Counsel

STATINTL

Howard J. Osborn
Director of Security

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